

Placement techniques

● **Single light source**, placed directly in front of the object. If it is a plant and somewhat open, allowing light to pass through and project shadows on a surface behind it, the effect can be sensational.

● **To either side of the object**. This will create distorted shadows that are very often dramatic and intensely interesting because of the extremely high contrast created.

● **Multiple point sources**. Two or more light sources from different sides of an object—sides and front; front and back—can create interesting highlights and shadows.

● **Downlighting**. This positioning tends to smooth and soften the lighting's

tone. It is desirable in security lighting where it is essential to minimize contrasts. But in landscape lighting, its effect is often bland and boring.

● **Uplighting** produces the starkest, most dramatic effect, described as mysterious, intriguing or exotic.

● **Backlighting**. Lighting the backside of a tree or shrub will make the object seem to "jump out" of its setting.

● **Silhouetting**. Lighting a surface from behind will help to emphasize the shape and dis-

tinctive character of a particular shrub or tree in the landscape.

—M.M.



Uplighting produces dramatic effects.

Lighting from page 12

of the beam after it projects beyond the lighted object.

Guard against light shining into a neighbor's window or into oncoming traffic.

● **Area or spread lighting**. This is ideal for safety lighting of paths and walkways. It is also excellent for flower beds and low level shrubbery. It is generally provided by low level fixtures that are often shielded by a top louver or cover.

● **Accent lighting**. Highlighting statues, exotic shrubbery and a specimen plant will often add a dramatic and interesting tone to a landscape lighting job.

● **Facade lighting**. Textured house surfaces like brick, weathered wood, split shakes, barn siding, when effectively lighted add character, depth and dimension.

● **Grazing**. Mounting the fixture just inches from the surface and aiming up at a very close angle can produce intense, highly provocative effects.

—The author is a lighting consultant with Stonco, a Genlyte company, headquartered in Union, N.J.

Buried utilities hidden, hazardous

Installers/excavators are always just 'one call' away from learning the whereabouts of below-ground utilities.

■ When Ken and his partner contracted to landscape the elderly woman's front yard, they also agreed to replace a paved walkway with a decorative stone walkway.

The winding stone entrance would be the finishing touch to an otherwise routine landscape installation. But, because they gave too little thought to what lay *under* the old, root-buckled walkway, they lost the profits from this job. It also required one extra day to complete the work.

They didn't call before they starting digging. Here's how they goofed:

They had agreed to remove from the front of her house, one sprawling, but rarely blooming lilac, and three scruffy boxwoods. These they replaced with two flowering crabs, a weeping cherry, ivy ground cover, and mulch. Small job, easily done.

But in attempting to slice through the

roots of a 60-year-old silver maple—to lay the paving stones of the new walkway—they cut into the natural gas line to the woman's house.

Typically, this isn't the way most underground utilities are damaged. More commonly, they're punctured with a backhoe.

To prevent this sometimes dangerous but always expensive confrontation between machinery and below-ground utility, the 25,000-member American Public Works Association (APWA), through its Utility Location and Coordination Council, promotes *One-Call*, a communication link between excavators and owners/operators of buried utilities.

Most states now have laws requiring public utilities with underground facilities to participate in a One-Call excavation protection service. Only three states—Hawaii, North Dakota and South Dakota—don't have One-Call system coverage.

For instance, had Ken dialed (800) 362-2764, the One-Call operation manned by the Ohio Utilities Protection Service, someone from Columbia Gas would have marked the location of the gas line with yellow paint—prior to any digging.

Had there been any other underground facilities at the digging site, the respective

operators would have also marked them with these standard colors:

- Electric—red
- Gas, oil—yellow
- Communication—orange
- Water—blue
- Sewer—green
- Proposed construction—white

Most One-Call systems, including Ohio's, require at least two working days' notice prior to digging. This is just one of several One-Call requirements that may be slightly different from state to state.

"In the landscape business, there should definitely be awareness of these One-Call systems," says Jim Thorne, director of research of APWA. In the case of a business that operates locally, employees may have to be aware of just the single One-Call number. For companies working in several states, there are separate numbers for each state.

Each year the APWA publishes its Excavator's Damage Prevention Guide and One-Call Systems Directory International. It contains listings and requirements for all One-Call systems. Cost is \$3. Contact: APWA, 1313 East 60th St., Chicago, IL 60637-2881.

—Ron Hall